

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mercedes Meyer, applicant's representative, on April 10, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

The claims have been amended to read:

Claims 1-13. (Canceled)

Claim 14. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the anti-P-LAP antibody is an anti-human P-LAP antibody.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the anti-P-LAP antibody is an anti-human P-LAP polyclonal antibody.

Claim 16. (Canceled)

Claim 17. (Currently Amended): A method for prognostic evaluation of a P-LAP positive ovarian carcinoma in a patient, comprising:

(a) contacting P-LAP positive ovarian carcinoma tissues obtained from said patient with an anti-P-LAP antibody,

(b) measuring the intensity of the specific antigen-antibody binding between P-LAP present in the ovarian carcinoma tissues and anti-P-LAP antibody, and

(c) correlating the intensity of the specific antigen-antibody binding with a ten year disease free survival rate (DFS) of said patient ~~determining that a ten-year~~

~~disease free survival rate (DFS) of said patient decreases as the intensity of the specific antigen-antibody binding increases.~~

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the amendment of claim 17 to include the limitation of ovarian cancer is sufficient to overcome the art rejection. Claim 17 part c has been returned to its original wording because the change was not necessary to overcome the art rejection and because part c as currently amended better describes the actual method step.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANNE M. GUSSOW whose telephone number is (571)272-6047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Helms can be reached on (571) 272-0832. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Anne M. Gussow
April 10, 2009

/David J Blanchard/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1643